

CLASSIFICATION <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>			
COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SCHOOL No 500 of the VDA at Kamenz			
TOPIC			
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT			
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	20 August 1954
REFERENCES			
PAGES	5	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2 - two sketches on ditto, with legend	
REMARKS			

### 1. Organization

In early March 1954, the VDA School No 500 was organized as follows:

headquarters  
1st Bn with 1st, 2nd and 3rd Cos  
2nd Bn with 4th, 5th and 10th Cos  
meteorological section  
T1 and T2 Sections  
motor transport squadron

This organization was newly established in mid-February 1954. The T1 and T2 Sections were also newly activated in mid-February 1954 and consisted of newly drafted soldiers who were to be trained as aircraft mechanics. Each of the five companies with the numerical designations 1 through 5 consisted of 3 platoons for military basic training. Each platoon was subdivided into 3 groups. For theoretical training, each company was divided into 5 instruction groups which were given numerical designations, such as Class No 33 for the 3rd instruction group of the 3rd Co. No details were known on the organization of the 10th Co, the meteorological section or the motor transport squadron. 1

### 2. Quartering Facilities

The School No 500 was quartered in the former Panzer Kaserne on Macher Strasse in Kamenz, referred to as Object I. The adjacent Object II housed a portion of the Bautzen Aeroclub and the 4th Tech Base in Kamenz. 2

### 3. Personnel Strength

In February 1954, the School No 500 had an estimated strength of 1,300 officers, NCOs and students. The individual units were believed to have the following personnel strengths:

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- 2 -

headquarters	about 20 officers and 18 NCOs
training department of headquarters	120 officers and 30 NCOs
1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Cos	20 officers and a total of 465 officer candidates
3rd Co (largest company)	3 officers and 135 officer candidates
10th Co	5 officers and 100 " "
meteorological section	1 officer and 30 " "
T1 and T2 sections	6 officers and 210 EM
motor transport squadron	30 NCOs and EM
<hr/>	
Total:	about 175 officers and 1,080 NCOs and EM

#### 4. Officers of School No 500

The following officers were known:

Chief	Colonel Leopold (fnu)
Deputy chief and political officer	Lieutenant Colonel Raubach (fnu)
	Major Voigtlaender (fnu)
FdJ secretary	Lieutenant Moelle (fnu)
chief of cultural department	Sub-Lieutenant Zygmund (fnu)
in charge of cadre matters	Lieutenant Hermann (fnu)
in charge of basic training	Captain Kraft (fnu)
and athletics	
medical officer	Captain Dr. Roaser (fnu)
chief of training department	Major Buschel (fnu)
chief of 3rd Co	Lieutenant Baustian (fnu)
political officer of 3rd Co	Lieutenant Jaehrling (fnu)
platoon leader of 3rd Co	Senior Lieutenant Frell (fnu)
in charge of technical	Sub-Lieutenant Strege (fnu)
instruction on aircraft	

As the position of a chief of staff was not provided for according to the table of organization, the chief of staff was called chief of the agency.

The company chiefs appointed "Lehrgruppen-Aelteste" (speakers of classes) and "Lehrgruppen FK" (political functionaries of classes) from among the officer candidates. Some members of the latter group were selected as provisional group leaders. Soviet advisers were Colonel Herz and Colonel Tannenberg (fnu) who probably had cover names.

#### 5. Instruction Material

The following instruction material was available in the class rooms of the school building:

Model M 11 F 3 aircraft engines for Yak-18,  
 model ASH 21 aircraft engines for Yak-11,  
 model ASH 82 FN aircraft engines for La-9,  
 measuring bridges,  
 voltmeters,  
 amperemeters and other demonstration instruments,  
 instruction charts,  
 technical illustrations and translations of Soviet manuals.  
 A wind tunnel, about 40 cm in diameter, was available in one class room. One model each of the Yak-18, Yak-11 and La-9 aircraft without outer skin were erected in hangar No 47 in Object I. Additional models and workshop equipment were available in hangar No 1 at Kamenz airfield.

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- 3 -

6. Duty Roster

There was a duty roster for school training as well as for technical training. Duty for school training:

0600	reveille
0800 to 1200	instruction
1400 to 1900	private study or college training
2000 to 2200	political indoctrination

Duty roster for technical training, in force since January 1954:

- |              |                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| a) 0500      | reveille                           |
| 0600 to 1400 | technical training on the airfield |
| afternoon    | off duty                           |
| 2100         | taps                               |
| b) 0600      | reveille                           |
| forenoon     | off duty                           |
| 1400 to 2200 | technical training on the airfield |
| 2300         | taps                               |

7. Training

After the beginning of the second year of training in the fall of 1953, the following topics were dealt with in school training:

Construction of model Yak-18, Yak-11 and La-9 aircraft,  
construction of model M 11 F3, ASH 82 FW and ASH 21 engines,  
operating of aircraft engines,  
map reading and use of march compass,  
political indoctrination, one double period every second day.

Technical training:

Maintenance work on Yak-18s  
assembly and disassembly of aircraft engines,  
assembly and disassembly of landing gears,  
functioning of instruments and equipment  
sources of defects on airframe  
refueling and lubricating  
hydraulic equipment  
extending and retracting of landing flaps  
extending and retracting of landing gears of propped-up aircraft  
warming up of engines and test runs

During the second year of training, no military basic training or callisthenics were conducted but only athletics during the off-duty hours.

8. Political Indoctrination

Topics: History of the Communist Party in the USSR.  
History of the working-class movement in Germany.  
The peoples' struggle for peace.  
The USSR, a bulwark against Western imperialism.  
The Four-Power Conference.  
The 4th SED Congress.

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- 4 -

The political officers of the classes did not give political instructions, but tried to raise the political reliability of the students. They helped students in making the best use of their study hours and instructed the political functionaries and agitators of the individual classes. Most of the students were faithful followers of the SED line.

9. Kamenz Airfield

The landing field extended from north to south and from east to west for a length of about 600 meters and about 500 meters respectively. Its firm grass cover, though in poor condition, dried quickly, even after heavy rain, except for the northern and northeastern sections which were marshy and under cultivation. After 1952, an auxiliary runway extending from south-southwest to north-northeast was covered with runway mats but which, in the spring of 1953, were removed again as the ground was not solid enough in the northern section. During the spring of 1953, two concrete hangars, each 70 x 30 x 15 meters, were constructed. Hangar No 1 housed 3 La-9s, 4 Yak-18s and 1 Yak-11 for training activity by the students of the School No 500. Hangar No 2 was occupied by 8 Yak-18s of the Aeroclub in Bautzen. A dilapidated wooden hangar, located along the wall at the northern edge of the landing field, was not used. In February 1954, construction work was under way on three brick buildings in the southern section of the field. Hangar No 1 housed tool cupboards, boring machines, milling machines and lathes for the students. At the end of the spur track was a fuel dump with 3 containers which was not yet in use at the beginning of 1954. At that time, the aircraft were refueled from tank trucks. A camp with 7 barracks buildings was located south of the fuel dump. The flight control station with a control tower was located between hangars Nos 1 and 2. The aprons in front of these hangars were concreted for a width of about 50 meters to the beginning of the fuel dump. No taxiways, aircraft dispersal area or other concrete hardstands were available.

1.  Comment. According to previous information, aircraft mechanics were also trained in the 6th, 7th and 8th Cos and radio and weapon mechanics in the 9th Co of the School No 500. It is assumed that the personnel of these companies have meanwhile terminated their training and were detached to the Aeroclubs. The training course for this personnel in Kamenz was to last only 1 year. New arrivals were probably assigned to the T1 and T2 sections. The meaning of the abbreviations T1 and T2 is not known. The 10th Co comprises an officers training course for radio and signal communications. This training course had been stationed in Augustusbad near Radeberg prior to late April 1953. The meteorologists were formerly trained in Pirna.
2.  Comment. For sketch of billeting area in the former Panzer Kaserne in Kamenz, see Annex 1.
3.  Comment. For sketch of Kamenz airfield, see Annex 2.

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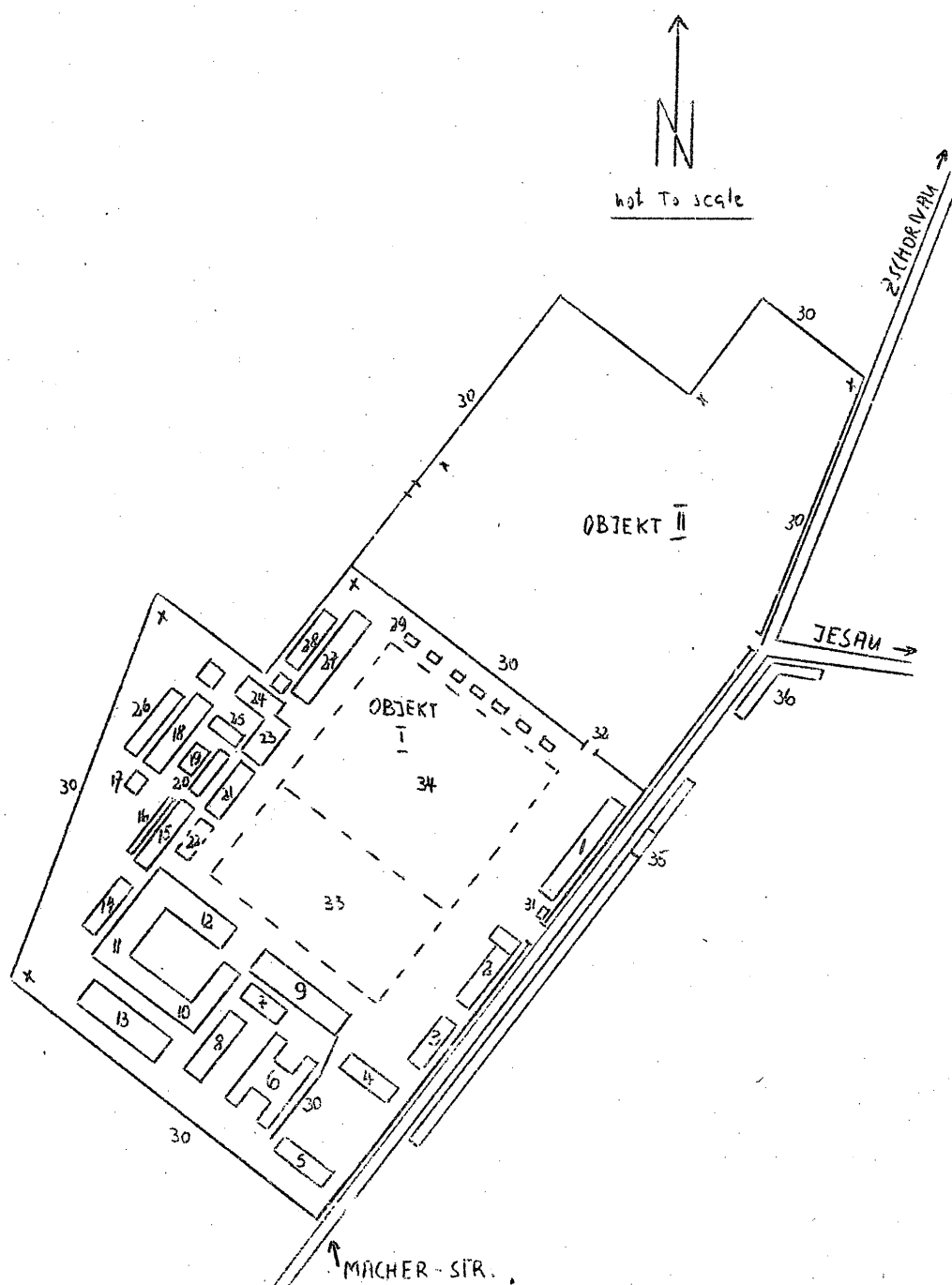
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- 3 -

Annex 1

School No 500 of VDA at Kamenz



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- 6 -

Annex 1

- 2 -

Legend.School No 500 of VDA at Kamenz

- 1 School
- 2 New headquarters building with guardhouse
- 3 Officers club and HO store
- 4 Building housing billets for meteorological section and central weapons stockroom
- 5 Quarters building
- 6 Old headquarters building, officers billets
- 7 and 8 Hospital
- 9 Gymnasium and culture house
- 10 Hall No 47
- 11 Hall No 47a housing workshops
- 12 Garage
- 13 Warehouse
- 14 Heating plant
- 15 Quarters building
- 16 Firing range for small-caliber arms
- 17 Filling station
- 18 Garage
- 19 Motor vehicle repair shop
- 20 Temporary building housing headquarters
- 21 Quarters building
- 22 Fire pond
- 23 Quarters building
- 24 Kitchen and messhall
- 25 Building housing administrative offices, switchboard and teletype station
- 26 Temporary building housing motor transport squadron
- 27 Quarters building for 3rd and 4th Cos
- 28 Shed
- 29 Seven ammunition bunkers
- 30 Wall
- 31 Entrance and guardhouse
- 32 Entrance to Object II
- 33 Tennis court
- 34 Drill ground
- 35 Building occupied by chief of school
- 36 MVD headquarters
- X High lookout posts

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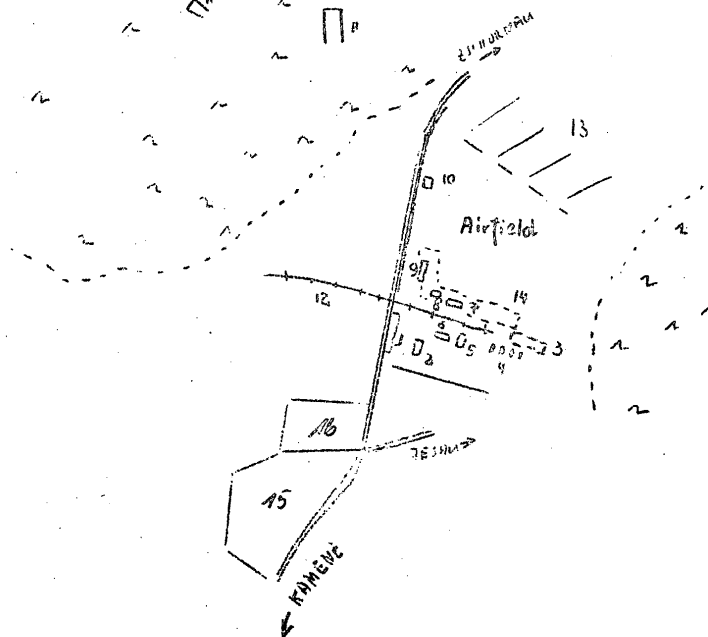
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Annex 2

- 7 -

Kanenz AirfieldLegend:

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 New building, framework completed     |                                     |
| 2 Building under construction           |                                     |
| 3 Fuel dump                             |                                     |
| 4 Seven low wooden quart ring buildings |                                     |
| 5 Building under construction           |                                     |
| 6 Messhall                              |                                     |
| 7 Hangar No 1                           |                                     |
| 8 Flight control station                |                                     |
| 9 Hangar No 2                           | 13 Section under cultivation        |
| 10 Wooden hangar                        | 14 Concrete aprons                  |
| 11 Firing range                         | 15 Former Panzer Kaserne, Object I  |
| 12 Spur track                           | 16 Former Panzer Kaserne, Object II |



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